

are not diagnosed. Although these tumors can be quite small, they can multiply and cause great physical discomfort. For many years a surgical procedure known as a hysterectomy, the removal of the uterus, has been used to eliminate the tumors. This surgery unfortunately also eliminates a woman's ability to have children. Therefore, it is imperative that women become more educated about the nature of fibroid uterine tumors and the possible implications for women who suffer from this debilitating health problem.

The best approach for women to effectively deal with this unique health dilemma involves regular exams by their doctor. Furthermore, it is paramount that the medical community explore alternatives to eliminate recurring fibroids by other than a woman having to undergo a hysterectomy.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that H. Con. Res. 165 has been brought before the House for consideration. For much too long women have suffered terribly with uterine fibroid tumors. I applaud my colleagues for bringing this bill before the House for a vote. This legislation, when enacted, will be implemented to encourage women to seek early detection of uterine fibroid tumors and will further enable doctors to pursue research concerning better treatment to avoid unnecessary and painful surgery.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of our time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 165.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECOGNIZING IMPORTANCE OF GOOD CERVICAL HEALTH AND DETECTING CERVICAL CANCER DURING EARLIEST STAGES

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 309), recognizing the importance of good cervical health and of detecting cervical cancer during its earliest stages.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 309

Whereas approximately 12,900 women are diagnosed with, and 4,400 women die from, cervical cancer in the United States each year;

Whereas women who are members of certain racial or ethnic minorities and women who have a low income are more likely than other women to die from cervical cancer;

Whereas cervical cancer is primarily caused by the human papillomavirus (HPV) and can be detected by a Papanicolaou test (Pap test) or other early detection tests;

Whereas the earlier cervical cancer is detected the better chance a woman has of surviving cervical cancer;

Whereas women of certain racial or ethnic minorities, women who have less than a high school education, and women who have a low income are less likely than other women to receive a Pap test or other early detection test for cervical cancer; and

Whereas cervical cancer survivors have shown tremendous courage and determination in the face of adversity: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes the importance of good cervical health and of detecting cervical cancer during its earliest stages;

(2) urges health care facilities and other medical institutions to continue to raise public awareness about cervical cancer and the importance of early detection;

(3) urges the people of the United States to learn about cervical cancer and the importance of early detection; and

(4) recognizes the survivors of cervical cancer for their tremendous courage and determination.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentleman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the legislation under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 309, which recognizes the importance of good cervical health and detecting cervical cancer during its earliest stages. This resolution, which was unanimously approved by the full Committee on Energy and Commerce on April 24, would help increase the public's awareness of cervical cancer and the importance of early detection.

Approximately 12,900 women are diagnosed with, and 4,400 women die from, cervical cancer in the United States each year. I was pleased to sponsor legislation in the 105th Congress, the Women's Health Research and Prevention Amendments of 1998, that included provisions to increase the emphasis on the early detection of this terrible disease. I am, therefore, pleased we are considering this important resolution today that will help us to continue focusing on prevention and early detection of cervical cancer.

Since many vulnerable groups of women are less likely to receive

screening tests for cervical cancer, it is critical that we continue our commitment to education programs so that these women increase their utilization of these important preventative services. This resolution is another positive step in that direction.

We are again indebted to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD) for this legislation, and I urge my colleagues, Mr. Speaker, to join me in support of H. Con. Res. 309.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise representing the 62 women Members of the House who have worked tirelessly to address these issues, thereby choosing the theme in this 107th Congress, The Wellness of Women.

Today, the House is considering H. Con. Res. 309 as one of these important pieces of legislation. This resolution recognizes the importance of good cervical health and detecting cervical cancer during its earliest stages.

I want to thank the Committee on Energy and Commerce chairman, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. TAUZIN), and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), for their leadership, and also the ranking member, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL), and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), and the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) for their efforts in the committee to report this bill favorably out of that committee.

I also want to commend the committee staff for their work.

H. Con. Res. 309 is important because cervical cancer can be fatal for a woman if it is not detected in its earliest stages. In 2002, the American Cancer Society estimates that there will be approximately 13,000 new cases of cervical cancer and, of that number, approximately 4,100 American women will die from this disease.

Cervical cancer can be detected by screening via a Pap smear test. Public awareness of utilizing Pap smear tests is especially important for racial and ethnic minority groups, and those segments of women who exist at or below the poverty level.

I cannot overemphasize the need for early screening because statistical data indicates that the 5-year survival is 70 percent for all stages of cervical cancer when it is detected early. Early screening can also detect pre-cancerous lesions, which can ultimately protect against a woman's contracting cancer.

Mr. Speaker, today the House has taken a huge step forward in educating women and potentially saving lives by passing this legislation. It is often said that acquiring knowledge can be empowering. In the case of cervical cancer, this is absolutely true.

Women throughout America can and will be destined to gain more peace of mind and even greater longevity by

virtue of enhanced awareness and greater application of Pap smear technology once this measure is enacted. Furthermore, generations of women will be able to experience more wholesome and productive lives devoid of cervical cancer.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Concurrent Resolution 309, recognizing the importance of good cervical health and of detecting cervical cancer during its earliest stages.

According to the National HPV & Cervical Cancer Campaign, each year approximately 12,900 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer, with 4,400 dying from this dreadful disease.

Mr. Speaker, I rise not to cite statistics, important though they are, but rather to talk about how cervical cancer affected my life. I lost my mother to this dreaded disease.

I can remember the great strength and courage my beloved mother showed even though she was in great pain as she battled for her life.

When she passed away, medical breakthroughs to detect cervical cancer were still far in the future. However, as science progressed we were able to identify that the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) causes this disease and, better yet, able to create tests for early detection. If detected early enough, most women have a good chance of defeating this disease, and living long productive lives.

Mr. Speaker, I stand in support of this resolution. I urge our health care facilities to help raise public awareness about the importance of early cervical cancer screening. In addition, I urge all citizens to learn about cervical cancer, and the importance of early detection.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today before you and my colleagues in support of H. Con. Res. 309, which recognizes the importance of good cervical health and its early detection.

Cervical cancer is nearly 100 percent preventable, yet according to the American Cancer Society, an estimated 13,000 new cases of invasive cervical cancer will be diagnosed in 2002 and about 4,100 women will die of the disease. The good news is that cervical cancer is preventable and curable if it is detected early; in fact, the occurrence of deaths from cervical cancer has declined significantly over the last 20 to 30 years.

Screening younger women using the Pap test is an importance strategy that can actually prevent cervical cancer from developing almost 100% of the time. Research and studies have been found to note that minority populations and persons of low socioeconomic status are affected disproportionately as well.

Early detection of cervical cancer can be the first major victory in the fight against cancer. Research is being done to develop a vaccine, but in the meantime, early detection is the key. The primary purpose of the Pap test screening program is to detect abnormal cellular changes that are not yet cancer. These changes, and very early invasive cancer, are virtually 100% curable. When preventative tests are used following an abnormal Pap test, the rate of detection of cervical cancer can be increased. The majority of deaths from cervical cancer are unnecessary and preventable. The key is early detection.

Mr. Speaker, my message is simple. Go for screening! I encourage women to make their

January calendars each year with this message. With early detection and prevention, no woman need die from cervical cancer.

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 309.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

2002 COMPREHENSIVE REPORT ON U.S. TRADE AND INVESTMENT POLICY TOWARD SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 107-216)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 106 of title I of the Trade and Development Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-200), I am providing a report prepared by my Administration entitled, the 2002 Comprehensive Report on U.S. Trade and Investment Policy Toward Sub-Saharan Africa and Implementation of the African Growth and Opportunity Act.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, May 20, 2002.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1831

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BASS) at 6 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.

COMMUNICATION FROM DISTRICT STAFF ASSISTANT OF HONORABLE ED BRYANT, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Woody Parker, district staff assistant of the Honorable ED BRYANT, Member of Congress:

CLARKSVILLE, TN,
April 24, 2002.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House that I have received a subpoena for testimony issued by the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Tennessee.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I will make the determinations required by Rule VIII.

Sincerely,

WOODY PARKER,
District Staff Assistant.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on the following motions to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

House Concurrent Resolution 314, by the yeas and nays;

House Concurrent Resolution 165, by the yeas and nays; and

House Concurrent Resolution 309, by the yeas and nays.

Votes on the remaining motions to suspend the rules considered earlier today will be taken tomorrow.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first such vote in this series.

AMVETS NATIONAL CHARTER DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 314.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 314, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 360, nays 0, not voting 74, as follows:

[Roll No. 171]

YEAS—360

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Akin
Allen
Andrews
Armey
Baca
Bachus
Baird

Baldacci
Baldwin
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Bentsen

Bereuter
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilirakis
Bishop
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert